

## Message Text

SECRET

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DRAFTED BY NEA:ALATHERTONJR:MAR

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

S/S:AWOTTO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 296259

NODIS

FOR CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LE, IS, US

SUBJECT: ISRAELI PAPER ON SOUTH LEBANON

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ISRAELI PAPER GIVEN TO SECRETARY  
BY AMBASSADOR DINITZ DURING MEETING DECEMBER 4.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

WE HAVE STUDIED IN GREAT DEPTH THE CONTENT OF THE MESSAGE  
FROM THE SECRETARY TRANSMITTED THROUGH EAGLEBURGER AND IT  
IS EVIDENT THAT THERE IS A DEFINITE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN  
OUR EVALUATION AND THAT PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY.  
WHILE THE SECRETARY SEES THE MAIN OBJECT AS THE PREVEN-  
TION OF TERRORIST ACTIVITIES FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON, AND  
ALL HIS CONCLUSIONS DERIVE FROM THIS POSITION, FROM OUR  
POINT OF VIEW THE FIRST AND FOREMOST PRIORITY IS THE PRE-  
VENTION OF THE ENTRANCE OF SYRIAN OR INTER-ARAB FORCES  
TO THE AREA OF SOUTHERN LEBANON.

3. SYRIAN ENTRY INTO SOUTHERN LEBANON IS OF A FAR-REACHING  
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POLITICAL AND MILITARY CONSEQUENCE AND CHANGES DRASTICALLY

THE MAP OF FORCES IN THE AREA. WE THEREFORE MUST CLEARLY

NEGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF SYRIAN OR INTER-ARAB FORCES  
ENTRY INTO SOUTHERN LEBANON.

4. AS MENTIONED ABOVE, WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACQUIESCE  
TO SUCH A SYRIAN MOVE. OBVIOUSLY, PARALLEL TO THIS,  
WE WILL NOT ALLOW THE TERRORISTS TO OPERATE FROM SOUTHERN  
LEBANON AGAINST ISRAEL, BUT WHILE THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO  
ACT IN ORDER TO PREVENT TERRORIST ACTIVITIES, THE SYRIAN  
PENETRATION IS FOR US MORE SERIOUS THAN THE TERRORIST  
ACTIVITIES, AND ONE THAT HAS LONG-RANGE STRATEGIC  
IMPLICATIONS. AS TO THE TERRORIST ACTIVITY, THE SECRETARY  
HIMSELF RIGHTLY CONTENTS THAT THE SYRIAN ENTRY BY ITSELF  
WILL NOT GUARANTEE THE PREVENTION OF TERRORIST OPERATIONS  
FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON.

5. CHRISTIAN SOURCES IN LEBANON INFORM US THAT THE  
SYRIANS THEMSELVES ARE NOT ANXIOUS, AT THIS STAGE, TO  
DEPLOY THEIR FORCES IN SOUTHERN LEBANON BEFORE THEY COM-  
plete their control and disarming of the various units in  
the north.

6. WE WANT TO EMPHASIZE THAT WHILE THE QUESTION OF  
TERRORIST ACTIVITY FROM THE SOUTH IS SOMETHING WHICH CON-  
cerns us, AND WE WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT IF AND WHEN  
IT OCCURS, THEIR PRESENCE AT THIS STAGE DOES NOT CREATE  
A NEW POLITICAL OR MILITARY FACT. ON THE OTHER HAND,  
THE SYRIAN OR INTER-ARAB FORCES MOVING SOUTH OF THEIR  
PRESENT LINE IS OF GREAT STRATEGIC AND POLITICAL CON-  
sequence which can create a situation in the context of  
ISRAEL AND SYRIA THAT WE ALL ARE INTERESTED IN PREVENTING.  
WE, THEREFORE, MUST REITERATE OUR CLEAR OBJECTION TO  
ANY SUCH MOVE BY THE SYRIANS. END TEXT. KISSINGER

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